Information Gleaned from Documents Related to Hachijō-in

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The Kōzan-ji Document pasted to the "Six-Fold Screen" at present stored in the National Museum of Japanese History has attracted a good deal of attention since it was described by Mr. Suzuki Shigeo and Mr. Yamamoto Shinkichi. Later, Mr. Ishii Susumu collected together related documents (Documents related to exprincess Hachijō-in), and revealed their contents in almost complete detail. However, quite a few details still remain unknown, and there exist some documents which have not yet been described.

This being the case, the author assessed as far as possible the date of these documents, in order to understand the nature thereof.

In Chapter 1, the author, noticing the fact that many of the documents are dated January, pointed out the following: the documents are dated January, the 4th year of Bunji; the paper had been used for copying the "Shoajari Shingon Mikkyo Burui Soroku", a list of books on Shingon Sect Buddhism brought from Tang to Japan by priests such as Saichō and Kūkai, and classified by Annen, who was a priest in the Period of Regents and Chancellors.

In Chapter 2, the author, paying attention to the fact that many of the documents are addressed to Fujiwara-no-Sanekiyu, found that they were dated the 1st or 2nd year of Yōwa.

In Chapter 3, many of the document being dated the 1st year of Genryaku, the author grouped these together and considered their character; as a result of which, he pointed out that these documents were kept by Nagatsune, the son of Sanekiyo.

In Chapter 4, the author considered as a group such documents that could not be judged immediately with the above, and found out that they could be classified into those of the 1st or 2nd year of Yōwa, and those of the 1st year of Genryaku.

As a whole, it was found that the basic nature of these documents was that they were documents arising from Fujiwara-no-Nagatsune's involvement with Hachijō-in as her steward.